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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Fifty-ninth session
Geneva 30 July-17 August 2001

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The fifty-ninth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be held at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 30 July to 17 August 2001. The first meeting of the session will be convened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 30 July. The last meeting will be convened at 3 p.m. on Friday, 17 August.

2. This document contains the provisional agenda for the session, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee in accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, together with annotations relating thereto.

3. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports and further information submitted by States parties and for the consideration of States parties whose reports are seriously overdue pursuant to the review procedure.

4. In accordance with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the States parties are invited to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Approval by the Committee of the experts appointed by two States parties to fill the vacancies resulting from the resignation of two members of the Committee.

2. Adoption of the agenda.

3. Organizational and other matters.

4. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures.

5. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.

6. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

7. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session:

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights.

8. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention.

9. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories in which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention.

10. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; Third World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

11. Report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Approval by the Committee of the experts appointed by States parties to fill the two vacancies resulting from the resignation of two members of the Committee

In accordance with article 8, paragraph 5 (b) of the Convention and rule 13, paragraph 1 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the representative of the Secretary-General will submit to the Committee, for approval by secret ballot, the names of the experts appointed by Germany and Sweden, respectively, to fill the vacancies resulting from the resignation of Mr. Brun-Otto Bryde (Germany) and Mr. Peter Nobel (Sweden) from the Committee.

Upon approval the new members will make the following solemn declaration:

"I solemnly declare that I will perform my duties and exercise my powers as a member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination honourably, faithfully, impartially and conscientiously."

2. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. In accordance with rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, add, defer or delete items.

3. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee will consider its programme of work for the fifty-ninth session. It will also undertake a general debate on issues of interest to the Committee. The Secretariat will brief the Committee about the Plan of Action to strengthen the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (2000-2004).

4. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures

The Committee decided at its forty-fifth session to establish this as one of its regular and principal agenda items. Within the framework of its efforts to prevent racial discrimination, the Committee may decide to take early warning measures aimed at preventing existing problems from escalating into conflicts; or it may decide to initiate urgent action procedures aimed at responding to problems requiring immediate attention to prevent or limit the scale or number of serious violations of the Convention. The Committee may also take action or further action regarding States parties already considered under this item.

The Committee may, at its discretion, schedule the consideration of the situation in some States parties at short notice.

5. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention

At its fifty-ninth session, the Committee will consider initial and periodic reports received from the following States parties: China, Cyprus, Italy, Lithuania, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United States of America and Viet Nam. It will also undertake a review of the implementation of the Convention in the following States parties from which periodic reports are seriously overdue: Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Liberia, Mali, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, and Yemen.

In pursuance of established practice and in conformity with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee. The scheduling of the Committee's consideration of reports submitted and review of the implementation of the Convention in the States parties whose reports are excessively overdue is set forth in the timetable below.

6. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention

At its fifty-ninth session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General concerning the status of submission of reports by States parties in accordance with article 9 of the Convention (CERD/C/411). Part A of that document indicates reports received from States parties and pending consideration by the Committee. Part B of the document contains information relating to overdue reports.

7. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session

Following a request made by the Committee at its seventh session in 1973, this item is included yearly on the Committee's provisional agenda.

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

Pursuant to article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the annual report of the Committee, covering its activities during the fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions, was submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session. The Committee will have before it the report and relevant summary records of the Third Committee, as well as relevant General Assembly resolutions.

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights

The Committee will have before it relevant General Assembly resolutions, as well as an advance version of the report on the 13th meeting of the chairpersons of human rights treaty bodies.

8. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVIII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under article 14 of the Convention.

In accordance with rule 88 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee during which communications under article 14 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

9. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories in which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention

Under this item, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (CERD/C/393) concerning article 15 of the Convention and listing, as appropriate, copies of petitions, reports and working papers relating to the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

10. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; Third World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

At its 695th meeting (thirtieth session) in August 1984, the Committee decided to keep this item on its agenda and requested the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the relevant activities which would be undertaken in accordance with the Programme of Action for the Second Decade and subsequently the Programme of Action for the Third Decade.

The Committee has been discussing matters concerning its contribution to the World Conference since its fifty-third session in August 1998. The discussion will continue at the fifty-ninth session.

11. Report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

In accordance with article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention the Committee is to submit, through the Secretary-General, an annual report to the General Assembly. The 2001 report to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session will cover the activities of the Committee at its fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions.

Tentative timetable for consideration of reports, comments and further information submitted by States parties and for consideration of States parties whose reports are seriously overdue pursuant to the review procedure

The following timetable has been drawn up by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman, taking into account the relevant decisions taken by the Committee at its fifty-eighth session.

Monday, 30 July 2001 (1466th meeting)

p.m.	Italy	Twelfth and thirteenth periodic reports due in 1999 and 2001, submitted in one document (CERD/C/406/Add.1)

Tuesday, 31 July 2001 (1467th and 1468th meetings)

a.m.	Italy	(continued)
p.m.	China	Eighth and ninth periodic reports due in 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/357/Add.4, Part I and II)

Wednesday, 1 August 2001 (1469th and 1470th meetings)

a.m.	China	(continued)
p.m.	Trinidad and Tobago	Eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1994, 1996, 1998 and 2000, submitted in one document (CERD/C/382/Add.1)
	Liberia[1]	

Thursday, 2 August 2001 (1471st and 1472nd meetings)

a.m.	Trinidad and Tobago	(continued)
p.m.	Cyprus	Fifteenth and sixteenth periodic reports due in 1998 and 2000, submitted in one document (CERD/C/384/Add.4)

Friday, 3 August 2001 (1473rd and 1474th meetings)

a.m.	Cyprus	(continued)
p.m.	United States of America	Initial to third periodic reports, due in 1995, 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/351/Add.1)

Monday, 6 August 2001 (1475th and 1476th meetings)

a.m.	United States of America	(continued)
p.m.	United States of America	(continued)

Tuesday, 7 August 2001 (1477th and 1478th meetings)

a.m.	Mali[1]	
p.m.	Sri Lanka	Seventh, eighth and ninth periodic reports, due in 1995, 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/357/Add.3)
	Bolivia[1]	

Wednesday, 8 August 2001 (1479th and 1480th meetings)

a.m.	Sri Lanka	(continued)
p.m.	Viet Nam	Sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth periodic reports, due in 1993, 1995, 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/357/Add.2)
	Hungary[1]	

Thursday, 9 August 2001 (1481st and 1482nd meetings)

a.m.	Viet Nam	(continued)
p.m.	Ukraine	Fifteenth and sixteenth periodic reports due in 1998 and 2000, submitted in one document (CERD/C/384/Add.2)

Friday, 10 August 2001 (1483rd and 1484th meetings)

a.m.	Ukraine	(continued)
p.m.	Lithuania	Initial report due in 2000 (CERD/C/369/Add.2)
	Uganda[1]	

Monday, 13 August 2001 (1485th meeting)

a.m. Lithuania (continued)

Yemen[1]

Tuesday, 14 August 2001 (1487th and 1488th meetings)

a.m. United Republic of Tanzania[1]

p.m. Bosnia and Herzegovina[1]

Note

[1] Review procedure (for States parties whose reports are seriously overdue).